

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Jan Sverma Plant, of the Brno Armament Works, Brno	DATE DISTR.	24 February 1953
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	5
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCE NO.	RD 25X1
		REFERENCES	

This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The Jan Sverma plant of the Brno Armament Works, National Corporation (Zbrojovka Brno, n.p.) is located in Brno at Lazaretni 7. Approximately 12,000 persons are employed in the plant, working in three shifts, from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., 2 p.m. to 10 p.m., and from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.
2. The principal products of this plant are light Bren machine guns and sub-machine guns. It also produces hunting rifles, Zeta typewriters of various types, adding machines, and weighing machines, both for civilian use and for industry.
3. Production of Zetor tractors at this plant was stopped at the beginning of 1952. In Hall 26, where the tractors were made, all machinery was dismantled and in February 1952 it was transferred to Lisen, six km. to the northeast of Brno. The majority of the skilled tractor workers were also sent there.
 - a. The Zbrojovka branch factory at Lisen was already producing tractors on a small scale. New factory workshops have been built there in order to take over tractor production from the Brno plant.
 - b. Halls 24 and 25 in the Brno plant, where tractors were assembled on a continuous belt conveyer, are now being cleared and the machinery dismantled, also for transfer to Lisen. New foundations for machines are being built in these empty halls by the plant's own labor forces. It is alleged that Halls 24 and 26 are to be equipped for the production of machine guns and Hall 25 for the production of Diesel engines.
4. The experimental workshops (pokusna dilna) are located in Hall 31. Prototypes are designed here. At present, modifications to machine guns are being worked out. The light machine gun Model 1951 has been subjected to the following modifications:
 - a. The firing lever is now in two parts: when the upper part is operated only single rounds are fired; when the lower part is operated a burst of fire results.
 - b. The machine gun can now be either belt or magazine fed.

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STATE	x	ARMY	x	NAVY	x	AIR	x	FBI		AEC		ORR	Ev	x		
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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

25 YEAR
RE-REVIEW

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5. The new parts for machine gun Model 1951 have already been produced, and the plant has received an order to deliver 500 machine guns of the improved type within a short time for testing and training purposes.
6. The same modifications are also to be carried out in the heavy machine guns. The selective firing modification (single rounds or bursts, at choice) is also to be carried out in the sub-machine guns.
7. The experimental workshop has the following equipment:
 - 38 milling machines
 - 6 planing machines
 - 5 drilling machines
 - 2 machines, of unidentified type.
 In addition, the workshop has its own transformer station.
8. Only experienced workmen are employed in the experimental workshop - for the most part they are master workmen. Admittance to the building is strictly prohibited to unauthorized persons and a Security Service sentry is always on duty.
9. The following are leading personnel employed at the Brno Armament Works:

General Director	Present incumbent unknown; until 1951 it was (fnu) Mach,	25X1
Member of Economic Commission	Dr. (fnu) Sevoik	
Head of Security Service	Dr. jur. (fnu) Pavlicek	
Head of Personnel	(fnu) Vitula	
Deputy	(fnu) Jurka	
Head of Laboratory	Eng. (fnu) Moravek, Sr.	
Assistants	Eng. (fnu) Moravek, Jr.	
	Eng. (fnu) Ziegler	
Chief Supervisor	(fnu) Zapotocky	
Military Commission Representative	Staff Captain (fnu) Brudek	
Engineer for Machine Guns	Eng. (fnu) Kucera	
Chief Medical Officer	(fnu) Kucera	

10. The following personnel are employed in the experimental workshop: 25X1

Head	Jan Holec (Machine gun specialist)	
	The modifications mentioned in paragraph 4 were worked out by Holec).	
Deputy	(fnu) Zaruba (also political officer)	
Manager	(fnu) Vaverka	
Head Foreman	Julius Spatny	
Head Supervisor	(fnu) Rosentaler	25X1

Annexes:

- (A) Key to sketch of Armaments Works, Brno (2 pages).
- (B) Sketch of Armaments Works, Brno (1 page).

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Annex A

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Key to attached Sketch. Annex B.

1. Main entrance; checking of workers and issue of special passes.
2. Administration building: Director, Security Service, Trade Union, Offices, Cashier, Military Commission 3-story building
3. Administration building: Health Insurance, Personnel Office, Tobacconist's shop (Konsum) 2-story building
4. Chemical Laboratory 3-story building
5. Canteen one-story building
6. Kitchen one-story building
7. Factory Hospital, Children's home 3-story building
8. Garages one-story building
9. Electrical Repair Workshop 2-story building
10. Acid baths, for cleaning of metals one-story building
11. Office of Manager for Factory Construction and Labour Forces one-story building
12. Production of typewriters, adding & weighing machines 3-story building
13. Factory Fire-brigade one-story building
14. Chemical Laboratory one-story building
15. Production of hunting weapons 2-story building
16. Joiner's shop: production of butts for rifles and machine guns 2-story building
17. Removal of rust one-story building
18. Timber storage one-story building
19. Forge 2-story building
20. Main Storage for finished products, equipped with ramp and loading crane one-story building
21. Machinery Hall, cutters (Scheren) one-story building
22. Storage for iron one-story building
23. Railway siding
24. Production (assembly) of Zetor tractors 2-story building
25. Dismantling of machinery in progress
26. Production of parts for tractors 2-story building
27. Dismantling of machinery in progress 2-story building
28. Production of tractor parts was formerly carried out here. Hall now empty. New foundation for machinery under construction 2-story building
29. Hardening of steel 2-story building
30. Production of light and heavy machine guns and sub-machine guns 2-story building
31. Machinery hall: production of machine tools one-story building
32. Supervision (main check point) of all parts (Teile) produced 2-story building
33. Experimental Workshops: designing and improving prototypes one-story building
34. Cleaning of parts produced (sand blast apparatus) one-story building
35. Storage one-story building
36. Firing range for testing purposes one-story building
37. Storage one-story building
38. Storage of stamped parts (gestanzte Teile) wooden, one-story building
39. Mechanical Workshop one-story building
40. Machinery hall (stamping machines) 2-story building
41. Production of all stamped parts one-story building
42. Mechanical Workshop
43. Site approx 200 x 300 m. on which a new machinery hall is under construction under the cover name Plzen. Ferro-concrete structure which is scheduled for completion in February 1953. The building contractors are Stavebni Zavody, Brno.
44. Lazaretni Street The Factory can only be entered by the main entrance in Lazaretni Street
45. Hospital
46. Church
47. Railway Station. Trolleys 2 & 8 from the middle of the town pass the factory. Most of the workers come by railway, Zidenice Station being near the main entrance.
48. Bridge over Svitava River
49. A technical training school for apprentices is to be built on this site. At present, approx. 1, 300 apprentices are under training in the various departments

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Annex A

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of the factory. Building work has not yet started.

- 47. Wall, approx. 2 m. high.
- 48. Exists (entry not permitted).

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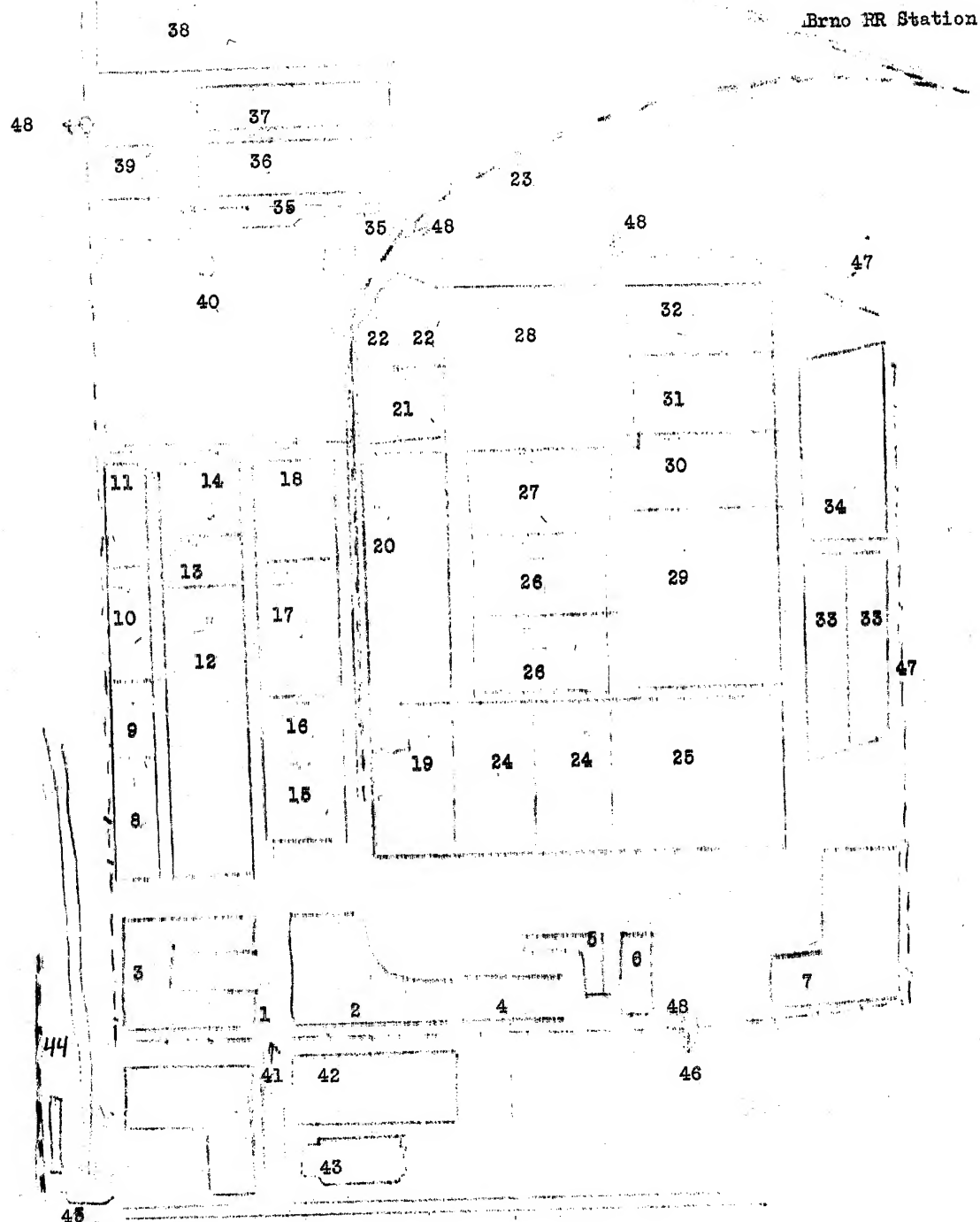
Annex B

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To Prague

ZBROJOVKA - BRNO



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